

MIDDLESBROUGH GOLF CLUB LADIES' SECTION

CONDITIONS OF PLAY

GENERAL

1. All competitions are limited to amateur players and are to be played in accordance with the current Rules of Golf published by R & A Rules Ltd and the Local Rules of Middlesbrough Golf Club (MGC).
2. The Ladies' Committee shall arrange all Ladies' Competitions and shall determine all the conditions which apply (All Committee decisions are final).
3. All competitions/matches must be played from the Red Tee Markers and start from the first tee, unless the format determines otherwise, (e.g. Shotgun start).
4. No player is eligible to enter a competition after 31st March until her Annual Membership Subscription has been paid.
5. Playing groups are made up of three players (with the exception of specific Four Ball competitions) in accordance with the time sheet and the format of the day.
6. Before registration on the BRS system, competitors must ensure that sufficient funds are available in the BRS purse to cover entry fees.
7. Qualifying Competitions for handicap purposes will be played in accordance with the current WHS rules. All competition score cards must be marked by a lady member with a WHS handicap.
8. England Golf (formerly EWGA) Medal Competitions will be played in accordance with the current WHS rules.
9. Buggies may be used in competitions (including EG Medals played at Club level) with the exception of:

- (a) Ladies' Club Championship - 36 hole competition
 - (b) Any Yorkshire Ladies County Golf Association event, including Inter-Club Team Matches. Permission may be granted If, prior to the commencement of matches/ events, application is made to the Yorkshire Executive Committee on presentation of a current medical certificate of disability. Permission to use a buggy in any YLCGA event must be made annually although a new medical certificate is not required each year.
 - (c) In EG Championship competitions, players must walk unless a golf buggy is permitted by a member of the EG Amateur Championship Committee on the production of a current valid medical certificate. See EG policy on the use of Golf Buggies & "Transportation Policy".
 - (d) In respect of YLCGA and EG Championships & competitions, the buggy may only be used by the person named on the certificate, and may only carry the player, her equipment and caddie if applicable.
10. (a) On any day of a Stroke Play Competition, a player CANNOT PRACTISE on the Competition Course except within marked practice areas.
- (b) On any day of a Match Play Competition a player MAY PRACTISE on the Competition Course before a round.
- 11 A player may leave the course between rounds of a 36 hole competition but must be on the tee, ready for play, at their designated time. Failure to do so will result in disqualification .
12. **Distance Measuring Devices (DMD)**
MGC ruling is that a player may obtain distance information by using a device that measures distance only. DMD's that are designed to gauge or measure other conditions are not allowed and the penalty is disqualification.

PLAYERS' RESPONSIBILITIES

1. It is the duty of all competitors to know the Etiquette & Rules of Play and to report all irregularities by participants as soon as possible to the Committee.
2. When entering other players' names on the timesheet, players must ensure they inform all the other players concerned. Players adding their own names to others should inform all concerned.

- 3(a) Payment for competitions will be subtracted from the BRS purse on the day of competition.
- (b) Players must enter final scores in the computer (if in operation) located in the clubhouse immediately after play, or on a mobile phone under 'HOW DID I DO'. Completed cards for competitions which are not 'live' on the computer should be put into the box. Failure to do so will lead to disqualification. Cards must be written out neatly and show a gross score for each lady with the exception of par competitions (when not scoring).
- (c) Entry fees for drawn competition, exchanges and outings which require payment in advance, must be paid at the time of entry on the competition sheet.
- 4(a) It is the responsibility of each player to know their correct Handicap Index and to ensure that their name, Handicap Index and **Course Handicap** are entered on the score card. Absence of a player's **Course Handicap** on the scorecard will lead to disqualification.
- 4(b) It is the responsibility of the player to ensure that score cards (qualifying, non-qualifying and general play) whether completed or not are returned to the club on the day of play and the Handicap Team informed. Unless there is a valid reason, payers who fail to return scorecards may have a penalty score applied.
- Scores from non-qualifying competitions cannot be entered into a player's handicap record but they can be used to aid the Annual Review.
- 4(c) If a competition has to be abandoned part-way through, scores where the minimum number of holes have been played (all 9 of a 9-hole round and at least 10 of an 18 hole round) may be entered into players' handicap records at the discretion of the Competition/Handicap Team.
- 5(a) Players must be on the teeing ground ready to play at their designated tee time, in accordance with the clock on the first tee. Players must not tee off before their designated time unless instructed to do so by the Professional or a member of the Committee.
- (b) If a player is late but ready to commence play within, but no later than 5 minutes after her starting time the penalty is loss of the first hole in Match Play or two strokes at the first hole in Stroke Play.
- 6(a) Players drawn together to play at a given tee time have an agreement to play, Failure to play at the allotted time is disqualification from the competition.

- (b) If there are valid reasons for a player being unable to play at an allotted tee time, details should be reported to a member of the Ladies' Committee or Professional as soon as possible and a later time may be granted.
NB: Play must commence from the first tee. Ladies must not join the group elsewhere on the course.
 - (c) Players have a responsibility to inform their playing partners and the professional before the allotted time if they are unable to play
 - (d) On competition day, play must not be delayed due to inclement weather when the course is open.
- 7 Players must play without undue delay and maintain the pace of play in accordance with guidelines set by the Committee.
- (a) Foursomes and Threesomes /competitions - approximately 3,5 hours
 - (b) Fourballs - approximately 4 hours
 - (c) If a match fails to keep pace on the course and loses in distance more than one clear hole from those in front, players **must** invite those playing behind to come through. This applies to all matches and competitions, including finals.
 - (d) Knock-out matches must not be played on Tuesdays.

**NOTE; MATCHES DO NOT HAVE AUTOMATIC PRIORITY - ANY TIME OR DAY
ALL PLAYERS SHOULD PLAY FORMAT OF THE DAY UNTIL THE LAST RESERVED
TEE TIME**

- 8 Any slow play should be reported to the Committee by player(s) immediately after play and **must be** substantiated either by e-mail or in writing by providing the date, time, name of competition, applicable hole number(s), names of slow players and witnesses of slow play. The Committee will consult with all parties involved before reaching a decision.
The Committee's resulting decision will be final.

COMPETITION REQUIREMENTS

- 1 Details of all competitions organised by the Ladies' Section are contained in a folder entitled 'Competition Rules' located in the Ladies' Locker Room.

- 2 For all competitions over one round, organised by the Ladies' Section, 30% of the expected field have to play 18 holes to constitute a valid competition. Otherwise the competition shall be carried over to such a date as may be fixed by the Ladies' Committee or the competition shall be declared null and void.
- 3(a) All competition score cards must be marked by a lady member with a WHS handicap.
(b) New members without a handicap may not enter competitions until they have been allocated a WHS handicap.
(c) New members joining MGC from another club will be eligible to win major trophies provided they hold a competitive WHS handicap. A copy of their previous playing record should be reviewed by the Competition & Handicap team.
- 4 In all competitions which require a replay, players must play off their current handicap.
- 5 Markers required in competitions will be appointed by the Committee/Competition Secretary. A referee will only be required for the Semi finals and Final of the Club Championship.
- 6 Matchplay score cards do not qualify for handicap purposes.
- 7 (a) Caddies can be used in matchplay finals only.
(b) A player intending to use a caddie must inform her opponent at least 5 days before play
- 8 Knock-out Competitions
(a) In knock-out competitions no player can be substituted after the commencement date of the first round.
(b) In the event of a drawn match a replay over 18 holes is preferable. If this is not possible and all players are unanimous, sudden death is acceptable.

THIS MUST BE DECIDED BEFORE COMMENCEMENT OF THE MATCH

- (c) Once opponents for a round are known, each individual pair should make contact with their opponent(s) as soon as possible and offer three dates, If these dates are not suitable, it is up to the players to reach an amicable agreement. The match must be played by the closing date for the round.
- (d) No extension of the closing date will be allowed other than for course closure. One day will be allowed for every day the course is closed, if required.
- (c) If no name(s) appears on the competition sheet on the last date stated for playing

the match, both players will be disqualified.

Any appeal against this ruling should be made in writing to the Competition Secretary as soon as the situation arises. A decision will be made by a quorum of the Ladies' Committee (which should include the Lady Captain whenever possible).

- (f) Match play competitions may not be played on Tuesdays.

HANDICAP REQUIREMENTS

GENERAL

- 1 The World Handicap System is based on the premise that each player will endeavour to make the best score possible at each hole in qualifying competitions and general play rounds and will report all such rounds for handicap purposes.

It is expected that every player who enters a qualifying competition intends to complete the round. Failure to do so without a valid reason may result in a penalty score being applied.

- 2 A player must designate one Affiliated club as their Home club to be responsible for maintaining their Handicap Index. When a player is a member of more than one golf club they must ensure that each golf club knows the details of all the other golf clubs of which they are a member, and which golf club they have designated as their home club.

It is recommended that the player selects as their home club the one at which they play the most frequently.

NEW MEMBERS

- 1 To obtain an initial Handicap Index players must submit a number of cards over 9 or 18 holes to a total of 54 holes at MGC. Players are required to submit hole-by-hole scores, and complete 9-hole or 18-hole rounds must be played.
- 2 Scores for the initial handicap must be marked by a responsible person.
- 3 There is no requirement for players to pre-register prior to a round that is used to determine the initial handicap.
- 4 New members without a handicap are not permitted to enter official competitions until they have been allotted a WHS Handicap Index.

- 5 The Handicap/Competition Team should review the initial qualifying scores returned by all members to whom a handicap index has recently been allotted and assess their golfing ability.

MAINTAINING A HANDICAP

A player is expected to submit a sufficient number of acceptable scores between Annual Reviews to maintain their handicap at a level that reflects their playing ability.

Scores acceptable for handicapping purposes include scores from qualifying competitions (home and away) and scores from general play rounds (home and away).

A player must have returned a minimum of 3 handicap scores in the previous Annual Review period in order to compete for the club competition prizes and trophies.

AWAY SCORES

Rounds must be registered on the day, before play, at the venue where the score is to be returned. Scores should be entered at the venue on the local software or via an App. If for any reason a score cannot be entered at the venue the player must return the score to MGC as soon as possible for processing (preferably on the same day).

A copy of the card will be required, along with the PCC (playing conditions calculation) of the day,, for the golf course played

GENERAL PLAY SCORES (Formerly Supplementary Scores)

General Play provides players with an alternative format to submit cards for handicapping purposes in addition to normal competition play. It is available to all players, regardless of handicap.

A General Play Score is an authenticated score under Competition Play Conditions over a measured course and can be returned at MGC or away at any affiliated club.

The format can be stroke (medal) or stableford, Cards can be submitted over 9 or 18 holes on any day of the week.

When submitting a General Play Score at home players must pre-register before play, either in the pro's shop or via the HDID App and elect whether they are submitting a 9 or 18-hole card. The card must be marked by a current MGC member with a current WHS Handicap Index. On completion of the round players must enter their hole by hole scores electronically

via the HDID App Once the scores have been entered players must place their signed scorecard in the competition box. Players must ensure the scorecard clearly states 'Casual Round' showing the date, tee time, player's name, player's handicap and the name and signature of the marker.

If a player wishes to return a general play score at an away course, the round must be pre-registered at the away course using the local software or via an app. Scores must be entered hole by hole either by local software or an app. Cards must be signed by a marker with a current WHS handicap.

Players who fail to return a pre-registered score card or a partially completed score card may be subject to a penalty score.

NINE HOLE COMPETITIONS

- 1 The qualifying course for this competition is holes 1-9'
- 2 The format for play is Stableford
- 3 A specific 9 hole handicap and card will be used for this competition.
- 4 The player must identify in the pro's shop, before commencing play, that they are entering the 9 hole competition.
- 5 Players entering the 9 hole competition can play with partners who are entering the 18 hole competition and may mark their card. If however they are leaving the course after playing their 9 holes they should ensure that their card is signed by their marker and that they have signed the card they have been marking, as per the normal rules of golf.

STANDARD COURSE CONDITION REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPETITIONS & GENERAL PLAY SCORE CARDS

In order for a score to count towards handicap in a competition or a general play score card the following conditions must be in place.

- 1 The competition must be played over 18 or 9 holes over a measured course.

- 2 there must be no more than two temporary greens
- 3 the course should not be shortened by more than 100 yards
- 4 Pick & Place is allowed from 1st October to 1st April. If, at any other time, this is imposed due to adverse weather or course conditions, permission must be sought from the Yorkshire Scratch Advisor for the competition to remain valid for handicap purposes. Permission can be obtained for the club (men's and ladies' sections) but must be obtained before any play commences in the competition.

It is permissible to use fairway mats in qualifying competitions but the ball **MUST NOT BE PLACED ON A TEE PEG** which is being used to stabilise the mat.

Winter Rules

Any local rules governing play on the course, eg winter rules, which alter these playing conditions, will mean the competition or any supplementary cards cannot count towards handicap.

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(Ladies' Committee)